

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0681/183208.01
Application No.: 09/322,457
Office Action Dated: December 9, 2003

PATENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method in a computer system for providing property notifications for properties of software components in a distributed computing environment, the method comprising:

registering, by a first software component, an interest in watching a property of a second software component;

receiving a notification when the property is set;

~~tracking-monitoring~~ a state of the second software component, wherein monitoring a state comprises sending periodic notifications to the second software component; and

C3 determining when the second software component is in a down state based upon said ~~tracking-monitoring~~.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further including retrieving the state of the property independently of receiving the notification when the property is set.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further including un-registering the interest in watching the property of the second software component.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the property has associated access rights and wherein an interest can only be registered by the first software component if the first software component has sufficient access rights.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of first software components have registered an interest in watching the property, and wherein each software component that is watching the property receives notification of a current setting of the property before any software component that is watching the property receives a notification of a subsequent setting of the property.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of first software components have registered an interest in watching the property, and wherein each software component that is watching the property receives notifications of a plurality of settings of the property in the same temporal order in which the plurality of settings occurred.

7. (currently amended) A method in a computer system for providing property notifications for property settings in a distributed computing environment, the method comprising:

for each of a plurality of software components, registering an interest in a property, wherein the property is associated with a server node; and

periodically notifying the server node that a software component is operational if said software component is operational;

setting the property a plurality of times; and

for each setting of the property, notifying each software component of the plurality of software components that the property has been set prior to notifying any software component of the plurality of software components of any later setting of the property.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~each~~ a software component of the plurality of software components receives the notifications of the settings in the same temporal order in which the plurality of settings occurred.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further including, after said registering, determining when the second component enters an up state.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said registering takes place prior to instantiation of the second component.

11. (previously presented) A computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

12. (previously presented) A computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 8.

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12. (previously presented) ~~A computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 8.~~

13. (previously presented) A modulated data signal carrying computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

14. (previously presented) A modulated data signal carrying computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 8.

15. (previously presented) A computing device comprising means for performing the method of claim 1.

16. (previously presented) A computing device comprising means for performing the method of claim 8.

17-70. (cancelled)